



MEMORANDUM

TC

Agenda Item No. 1(E)1

TO: Honorable Dennis C. Moss, Chairperson
and Members, Transportation Committee

DATE: October 18, 2004

FROM: George M. Burgess
County Manager

SUBJECT: October 2004
Monthly
Progress Report

Attached please find the October 2004 Monthly Progress Report for Aviation, Seaport, Consumer Services, Miami-Dade Transit and Public Works' PTP Projects.

 10/7/04
Surface Transportation Manager

October 2004 Goals Report

Public Works

Goal 1: Implement the Public Works Department's Major PTP projects on-time and on-budget

Status:

- The \$5.5 million NW 62 Avenue project in Hialeah began construction on May 3, 2004. The contractor is working on drainage, subgrade, and roadway base preparation, flatwork, asphalt, bridge work, and electrical. Work is approximately 25% complete.
- Six design contracts are before the BCC and CITT this month for approval of the professional services agreement. The 6 design contracts will address the following projects in the department's 2-year PTP plan:
 - Dist. 3 - NE 2nd Avenue from West Little River to NE 91 Street (Street and Traffic Operational Improvements)
 - Dist. 6 – SW 62 Avenue from SW 24 Street to NW 7 Street (Street and Traffic Operational Improvements)
 - Dist. 7 – SW 62 Avenue from SW 70 Street to SW 64 Street (Reduce from 5 to 2 lanes)
 - Dist. 9 – SW 160 Street from SW 147 Avenue to SW 137 Avenue (New 4 lane road)
 - Dist. 12 – New 5 lane bridge over the Miami River Canal at NW 138 Street
 - Dist. 11 – New access to Country Walk from SW 136 Street.
- A ground breaking for the Grand Avenue Project was held on September 22, 2004. The project cost is \$3.7 million dollars, and combines funding from PTP and other County funding sources.
- County and the City of Miami are working on new JPAs to address several other projects in the 2-year plan. NE 2nd Ave from NE 36 Street to NE 43 Street, NE 2nd Ave from NE 43 Street to NE 62 Street and South Miami Avenue from SW 25 Road to SW 15 Road.
- Miami River Tunnel Feasibility Study is being redrafted with active input from the City of Miami and FDOT.
- A new RFP for the ATMS is being developed. Responses to the RFI have been received by PWD, and are being reviewed. County experts are visiting various sites nationwide this month to determine if there is an ATMS system on the market that can be implemented in Miami-Dade County in a relatively short period of time.

Goal 2: Implement the Public Works Department's Neighborhood PTP projects on-time and on-budget

Status:

- Public Works continues to reach out to each of the County Commissioner's Offices to discuss the Neighborhood Improvement Projects.
- Contracts to address these Neighborhood Improvements (Non-Site Specific Projects) are being moved forward.

- 11 PTP Construction Contracts (totaling \$10.0 Million) have been approved by the CITT and BCC. Each of these contracts will have issued a Notice to Proceed and be issuing work orders this month.
 - Resurfacing, Sidewalks, Drainage, Striping, ADA Sidewalks, School Flashing Signals, Traffic Signals.
- Multiple work orders will continue in October on Neighborhood Improvements.
 - School Flashing Signals (Greynolds Park EI – D4, Kinlock Park EI – D6, Gulfstream EI – D8, Lake Stevens EI – D1, Shenandoah EI – D5), Resurfacing in Districts 1&7 for roads with poor pavement conditions, Resurfacing on Arterials, ADA accessibility to sidewalks on heavily traveled bus routes, New Sidewalks / ADA accessibility on Arterials, Traffic Signals, Drainage, Intersection Improvements.

Goal 3: Picking the Low-Hanging PTP Fruit

Status:

- Two major, visible projects are already under construction (NW 62 Ave & Grand Ave).
- Resurfacing projects ongoing and beginning in Districts 1, 2, 7 & 10.
- 11 Open Construction Contracts will continue progress on work orders in October.
- Street name signs are being replaced at a greater rate today. Crews are working overtime to replace faded signs with the new sign design. 8,500 new street name signs have been replaced as of today.
- Staff is being hired and equipment acquired to accelerate the street name sign effort with PTP funds. 10 Traffic Maintenance Employees have been hired already, and further staff and equipment is being acquired.
- Illuminated street name signs have been ordered for the countywide pilot program. The new, more visible, signs will begin going up throughout the County in October and November. The locations are:

District 10 - Bird Rd & SW 102 Ave
District 10 - Bird Rd & SW 92 Ave
District 11 - SW 152nd Ave & SW 72nd St
District 1 - Douglas Rd & NW 199 th St
District 2 - N Miami Ave & 111 th St
District 3 - NW 17 th Ave & 30 th St
District 4 - Ives Dairy Rd @ NE 14 Ave
District 5 - NW 12 th Ave & NW 7 th St
District 6 - SW 67 th Ave & SW 16 th St
District 7 - SW 67 th Ave & SW 88 th St
District 8 - SW 127 th Ave & SW 184 St
District 9 - SW 137 th Ave & SW 128 th St
District 10 - SW 117 th Ave & SW 56 th St
District 12 - NW 67 th Ave & W 84 th St
District 13 - Miami Lakes Rd & Ludlam Rd

District 10 - Bird Rd & SW 87 Ave
District 7&8 - US-1 & SW 98 Street

Goal 4: Begin Work on all PWD PTP Projects

Status:

- Each project in the 2-year plan is underway in some fashion (scope development, design, consultant negotiations, construction, contract preparation).
- PWD is also moving forward on several other major projects.
 - PWD is working with FDOT for a JPA to begin design of NW 74 Street.
 - PWD will be advertising for design services for projects on SW 157 Avenue, NW 37 Avenue, and SW 27 Avenue this fall.
 - PWD is coordinating with the Park Department to advance the design and construction of SW 157 Avenue.
- PWD issued multiple work orders to the Master Consultants for assistance in PTP Projects. This will allow PWD to advertise for design services for these projects faster, and also address needs in ADA coordination and the Contracts and Specifications office.

Seaport

Goal #1: Maintaining market share and attracting new business.

Status:

- On the cargo side, July stats are showing a 1% increase in cargo tonnage over last year's figures in spite of several challenges we have faced this year. The port is experiencing a considerable amount of container traffic back-ups primarily due to hurricane related events and the Christmas cargo rush which began in September. On the customer side, we are working with a large shipping/stevedore company trying to attract new cargo (and cruise) services to POM. Additionally, the Port has received confirmation that a Far East weekly service comprised of four major lines will commence calling in Miami before the end of year.
- On the cruise side, the Port continues to work towards attracting new lines and services. The aftermath of the recent hurricanes brought temporary new business to the seaport as ships were diverted from Port Canaveral and Tampa. From Carnival Cruise Lines we received the *Fantasy*, *Carnival Glory* and *Sensation*. Royal Caribbean International diverted the *Mariner of the Seas* to Miami. Fortunately, no cruise business was lost. In fact, Royal Caribbean International is "testing the waters" by using Miami as a port-of-call with the *Sovereign of the Seas* until their private island is rebuilt.
- The seaport is gearing-up for its busy winter cruise season. The majority of our winter vessels will begin returning in October for the season.

Goal #2: Advancing the Infrastructure Program.

Status:

- P&O Ports Florida, Inc. was contracted by Miami-Dade County under a development agreement to construct 33 projects as part of the Port's redevelopment program. By mutual agreement, Miami-Dade County and P&O Ports Florida, Inc have executed a termination and assignment agreement. The Port has taken the assignment and is currently working directly with the architects/engineers and construction managers in the fulfillment of the remaining portion of the work.
- This Fast Track Development Program has completed 100% of all design requirements and executed project GMPs (Guaranteed Maximum Price) totaling \$101 million of which 14 projects have been completed. Overall completion of this program is scheduled for February 2005.
- The Seaport Expedite Program for two (2) new cruise terminals (\$60 million) and multiple infrastructure projects (\$40 million), including crane electrification, marine mooring improvements, container yard development and INS lease improvements to cruise terminal 7 have entered the GMP phase with each of the Construction Managers. The cruise terminals are scheduled for completion within 14 months and the balance of the projects is programmed for completion within an 18-month period.
- As part of the Port's partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the USACE awarded a contract on September 30, 2004 to complete the Phase II dredging project to deepen an extended portion of Fisherman's Channel to a depth of 42'. This will allow the Port to utilize a total of six wharfs at a draft of 42' versus the two current available wharves at same depth. Once completed, this improvement will enable the Port to attract and accommodate deeper draft cargo vessels and will assist with goal #1 as stated above.
- The Department has been successful in working with state and federal agencies to secure grant funds for security infrastructure projects. These projects are being integrated into the capital development program.

Goal #3: Agreeing on a feasible plan to improve traffic flow on and off Port.

Status:

- On-Port: Within the Infrastructure Program, construction of a new road will ultimately separate cargo trucking from cruise traffic on the Port. In addition to being a new security measure, this separation of vehicles is designed to enhance traffic safety and ease traffic flow within the Port. Road construction is advancing at a fast pace with the new outbound cargo bridge complete. Overall, about 80% of the project work completed to date.
- Off-Port: The primary route to and from the Port is from I-395 entering/exiting from N.E. 1st and 2nd Avenues. The first step the Port has undertaken in

improving off-Port access is to perform road improvements on N.E. 1st and 2nd Avenues from I-395 to 5th and 6th Streets. These improvements include resurfacing, drainage, traffic signal improvements, and right-of-way acquisition (completed) for wider turning lanes for truck traffic. The Public Works Department, on the Port's behalf, has commenced construction of these improvements.

- The second step the Port has undertaken is to improve off-Port access to seek an alternate route to the interstate system. The Port will be responsible for road improvements along 5th and 6th Streets similar in nature to those being performed on N.E. 1st and 2nd Avenues. However, at this time this project has been put on hold per FDOT.
- Also, the Department continues to work with the appropriate state and federal agencies to move forward with the Port Tunnel project. The FDOT is in the process of completing a reevaluation study which evaluated optimum construction methods for existing geophysical conditions.

Goal #4: Beginning the development process for Maritime Center (i.e. office space, hotel, restaurants, etc.)

Status:

- At this time, the Seaport Department has developed a maritime center mixed-use concept with preliminary site layouts as a working tool for further marketing and feasibility analyses.

Consumer Services

Goal #1: Complete implementation of the Limousine Ordinance

Status:

- This goal is substantially completed. Staff is currently working on the establishment of an industry advisory committee and amendments to established minimum limousine rates that, by ordinance, are required to be 3.3 times higher than the rate for taxicab meter wait time. 42 of the 100 luxury limousine licenses approved in April 2004 had been placed into service as of October 4, 2004.

Goal #2: Further the transition to owner-operator Taxi Cab System

Status:

- CSD continues to receive and process applications for transfers of taxicab licenses to owner-operators. 197 taxi licenses have been transferred to owner-operators since adoption of the Taxi Ordinance in 1998.
- There are 452 of 1,966 taxi licenses (23%) held by owner-operators as compared to approximately 114 of 1,824 taxi licenses (6%) held by owner-operators in 1998.

- The CSD completed a preliminary review of chauffeur applications in the 2004 taxicab lottery. Preliminary denial letters have been sent to 107 chauffeurs applying in 142 categories. In some cases chauffeurs may be able to cure the deficiency. CSD is attempting to finalize securing of an independent auditor to review the process and files. It is anticipated that the lottery will be held in late December 2004.
- CSD's interlocal agreement with the City of Miami for police enforcement of for-hire regulations expired on September 20, 2004. A renewal agreement was initiated and forwarded it to the City for their review and consideration. A similar agreement is in place with the City of Miami Beach for enforcement by their police officers. CSD is in discussions with Miami Beach regarding expanding the list of authorized staff to include Enforcement Officers with the City's Parking Department. Such agreements augment CSD's existing enforcement capabilities.
- Completed production with Miami-Dade Television of a public service announcement regarding the availability of wheelchair accessible taxicabs that will begin airing in October 2004. Presently there are 20 wheelchair accessible taxicabs, though this will increase after the 2004 lottery.
- Along with representatives from the Aviation Department, CSD met with representatives of the New Vision Taxi Drivers Association following a citizens presentation made at the September 21, 2004, Commission meeting. A follow-up discussion took place on October 5, 2004, at Aviation's regular monthly meeting with the Association. County staff attempted to answer various questions and address concerns.

Goal #3: Continue to improve Consumer Protection Services

Status:

- Continued to monitor Comcast Communication's cable system upgrade. The next areas in line for completion are the remainder of the Comcast North Miami-Dade system with a deadline of December 31, 2004, and Opa-locka with a deadline of January 30, 2005. Comcast has provided notice of a planned channel realignment that will take place in early December. Among other changes, Comcast is planning to relocate Miami-Dade Television, Cable TAP Community, and Cable TAP Learning to channels 76, 78 and 79 uniformly in all of its service areas.
- Consumer educational and outreach sessions provided since the last report include: providing consumer education and an overview of department services at the Citizen's Academy; conducting a small claims court clinic at the West Kendall Regional Library to teach consumers how to use the small claims court process; and participating in a discussion on WLRN radio's Topical Currents program regarding a lawsuit involving windstorm insurance coverage.
- The Cable-TAP Community Channel, operated by Miami-Dade College under contract to the County, now offers "live" streaming video 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, making it possible to view Community Cable-TAP programming on the internet at the same time it is showing on-air.

- The maximum allowable rate for Class A non-consent private property tows was increased from \$97 to \$101 and the amount that can be charged if the vehicle is released on the scene rose from \$48.50 to \$50.50. The rates were adjusted by the 4.6% increase in the Consumer Price Index for Transportation over the last 12 months as required by Resolution R-853-03 (July 22, 2003).

Goal #4: Institute a streamlined process to license passenger motor carriers, non-emergency vehicles and private school buses

Status:

- CSD is presently drafting revisions to Passenger Motor Carrier (PMC) Code sections that regulate services such as tour vans, contract carriers, and jitneys. CSD is finalizing a new draft based on comments previously received from industry members. The draft bifurcates route service providers (jitneys, fixed route, circulator) and other PMC's into separate sections of the Code. It is anticipated that proposed revisions will be submitted to the Board in the December 2004/January 2005 timeframe following industry workshops.

Other Activities:

Cooperative Extension education activities included:

- A follow up meeting was held with the Village of Biscayne Park to assess practice changes as result of recommendations made at an earlier meeting. Recommendations for the use of drought tolerant plants, especially turf grass, slow release fertilizers, and increased mowing height had all been implemented.
- Staff organized and taught a course for managers and supervisors of nurseries, landscape firms, plant brokers, and landscape designers on "How to Obtain Government Contracts".

Nutrition training was conducted, including an exhibit at the Community Action Agency's Back to School Health Fair held at Gibson Park where approximately 350 parents and children were exposed to the exhibit that focused on breakfast, snacks, and eating recommended portions from the food guide pyramid, and a nutrition program on healthy lifestyles was held for employees of the Airbus Service

Miami- Dade Transit (MDT)

Goal #1: Implement goals of Peoples' Transportation Plan (PTP)

Status

Transit Corridor Update:

○ **North Corridor**

MDT submitted the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on this project to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on September 7, 2004. MDT staff is in the process of addressing additional requirements noted by

the FTA. The FEIS will be used to obtain a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD signifies that the project complies with all environmental objectives.

MDT continues to move forward in obtaining a consultant for Preliminary Engineering (PE) on this project. The purpose of PE is to finalize station locations, corridor alignment, determine park and ride facilities needed and the number of rail cars needed at peak capacity. We have also received Proposals for North Corridor Preliminary Engineering (PE) consultant services were received on August 13th, 2004, and the Selection Committee has recommended to the County Manager that MDT enter negotiations with Parsons Transportation Group. Notice-To-Proceed (NTP) to the consultant is currently projected for April 2005. After PE is completed, MDT will make a request to enter into Final Design.

- **MIC-Earlington Heights**

On August 18, 2004, MDT received a letter from FTA granting formal permission for MDT to work with the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to acquire real estate for this project. The letter allows MDT to acquire property prior to receiving a ROD. For example, FTA will allow MDX to acquire land for our transit project in cases when MDX already needs a portion of the same parcel for their own SR 112 Connector project. Furthermore, any such purchase by MDX will be credited as part of the local match.

As a result of FTA's decision, MDT can explore the possibility of implementing this project with 100% local funds. The local funds include a commitment from FDOT of \$100 million and this project is eligible for the transit surtax proceeds.

Additionally, the request to enter PE was submitted on August 20, 2004, and is currently being reviewed by FTA. The cost per rider for this project is \$18.50, applying the FTA standards this project has a medium cost effectiveness rating. The RFP for MIC-Earlington Heights Preliminary Engineering (PE) consultant services was advertised on July 30, 2004. A pre-proposal meeting with prospective proposers was conducted on August 11, 2004. Proposals were received on August 27, 2004. Proposals are currently being reviewed by CICC staff. NTP to the consultant is currently projected for April 2005.

- **East-West Planning Consultant Selected**

Negotiations with the selected consultant, HNTB Inc were completed in September 2004 and the Professional Services Agreement is being presented to the Transportation Committee in October. Notice-To-Proceed (NTP) to the selected consultant is currently scheduled to be issued in late-December 2004 or January 2005.

- **Program Management Consultant (PMC)**

The first tier meeting of the selection committee was held on July 21st, 2004. The Inspector General (IG) is currently performing a Due Diligence Review of the two proposing firms. MDT staff has been unable to obtain a projected

completion date for the Due Diligence Review from the IG. Public hearings are now tentatively scheduled for October/November 2004. NTP to the consultant is currently projected for May/June 2005.

Goal #2: Recreate Department's image through futuristic designs and facilities integrated into the system

Status:

- **Metrorail Rehabilitation Update**

- Select highlights of the rehabilitation of Metrorail
 - The Resolution authorizing issuance of the Request For Proposals (RFP 439) for the rehabilitation of the Metrorail vehicles was passed by the Transportation Committee on July 22, 2004. The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) at their meeting of September 9, 2004 approved the Request for Proposals for the Metrorail Vehicles Rehabilitation. The BCC approved the resolution, which grants authorization to initiate the Request to Advertise. The RFP solicitation package was available for distribution on September 30, 2004.

- **Metromover Replacement Update**

Negotiations commenced on August 24, 2004, with Bombardier Transportation for the sole-source procurement for 12 Metromover vehicles to replace the original Phase I vehicles which have now reached their 20-year useful life. Negotiations with Bombardier are expected to be completed in September 2004. Negotiations are expected to be completed in October 2004

- **Bus Passenger Shelter Installation**

3,000 new bus passenger shelters are scheduled to be installed throughout unincorporated Miami-Dade County by October 2006. At the end of September 2004 there were 237 shelters installed. That number is expected to reach 500 by November 2004. MDT has been working very closely with the Miami-Dade Public Works Department to expedite the permitting and inspection of shelters.

- **Bus Stop Sign Installations**

More than 1074 of the new state-of-the-art bus stop signs have been installed throughout Miami-Dade County to date. The new signs offer a square green post with a map panel. Each panel shows the individual route maps for that stop and the scheduled arrival times for the time points closest to that stop.

Goal #3: Improve the system's reliability

Status

- **South Dade Busway Signal Prioritization**

MDT is exploring installing crossing gates at all signalized intersections along the Busway in an effort to improve the efficiency of the Busway operation. A meeting

has been scheduled with FDOT for October 15, 2004. MDT is evaluating re-enabling the Busway preemption signal to its original operation.

Goal #4: Improve the courtesy and customer service provided

Status

- **Customer Service Training**

Service in Excellence training began on October 5, 2004 for MDT's 3,000 Bus Operators and Maintenance personnel. A special module has been developed to focus primarily on customer service delivery from the operational personnel's perspective. In July 2004, nearly 700 of MDT's Senior Management and Administrative staff completed the training.